

THE WORD THIS SUNDAY

God replied,
**“I AM
WHO
AM.”**

SUNDAY, February 28, 2016

Third Sunday of Lent

If your parish has people preparing for baptism at Easter, you may hear alternate readings about the Israelites' thirst in the desert, and the woman at the well.

FIRST READING

God replied, “I am who am.”
Then he added, “This is what you shall tell the Israelites: I AM sent me to you.”
—Exodus 3:1-8A, 13-15

PSALM

The Lord is kind and merciful.
—Psalm 103

SECOND READING

Therefore, whoever thinks he is standing secure should take care not to fall.
—1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

GOSPEL

“But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!”
—Luke 9:28-36

REFLECTION QUESTION

Where is mercy at work in today's Gospel reading?

Get more reflection questions and Scripture resources from Jen Schlameuss-Perry at pbgrace.com; look for Breaking Open the Word at Home.

THE CHURCH THIS WEEK

MONDAY February 29

St. John Cassian (360–435)

The monk who wrote Conferences of the Desert Fathers, an account of the spirituality and practice of the desert ascetics that shaped later monastic tradition.

TUESDAY March 1

St. David of Wales (500–589)

The patron saint of Wales; legend says that a dove descended onto his shoulder as he was preaching, and a small hill rose up under his feet.

WEDNESDAY March 2

Venerable Engelmar Unzeitig (1911–1945)

The priest arrested by the Nazis for defending the Jews; he treated his time at the Dachau concentration camp as a chance for spiritual growth, and died voluntarily caring for victims of typhoid.

THURSDAY March 3

St. Katharine Drexel (1858-1955)

The wealthy heiress who spent her fortune (and her life) serving Indian and black people, founding schools for them across the U.S., including Xavier University.

FRIDAY March 4

St. Casimir (1458-1483)

The young Polish prince famous for his holiness; at age 15, he refused to participate in war, and would not marry, even after becoming king.

SATURDAY March 5

St. Gerasimus (d. 475)

The hermit who removed a thorn from the paw of a lion, which became his faithful companion.

Catholic Relief Services collection

THE WEEKS AHEAD

3 weeks to the first day of spring and Palm Sunday
(Mar 20)

Living in Christ day by day

THE Bread
fresh and free

Get Your Grace On

PRAY

Preview this Sunday's readings with your kids. Close your eyes and silently imagine you are Moses, encountering God in the burning bush. Listen to God's words to you. How do you respond? Make your response your prayer. [30]

Lent 2016

Prepare your kids to participate in the Scrutinies this Sunday (assuming your parish has adults preparing to be received into the Church at Easter). The Scrutinies are a ritual in which the Elect make a commitment to "serious examination of their lives and true repentance" Ask your kids what that commitment would mean in their lives. (*Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* #142). See "The Scrutinies" at creighton.edu for more information. [25]

Are your kids getting a balanced "diet" of the five forms of prayer? Check out the five forms of prayer and a cool "prayer plate" activity for assessing your kids' "prayer diet"

in "Are Your Kids Getting a Balanced Prayer Diet?" at pbgrace.com. [50]

CELEBRATE

For your meatless Friday meal, try kawunga, or cornmeal with beans, from Rwanda. This is a four-ingredient dish that is a little like polenta, but easier to pull off, and thicker. You can shape the cornmeal into little bowls for the beans if you like. Find it in the recipes section of crsricebow.org. [20]

How does your family rest? Does your family rest? Check out Heidi Indahl's suggestions on how to make rest an intentional part of your week at pbgrace.org.* [25]

SERVE

Take your kids on a special trip to the grocery store to buy food items to donate to your local food shelf. Let them choose which items to donate; they can even plan menus for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. [70]

Let your kids go through their old books and pick out as many as they would like to donate to the public or

school library for other kids to enjoy, too. [50]

TALK

We're almost halfway through Lent! Check in with your family to see how everyone is doing on their Lent Plan. If you haven't made a Family Lent Plan, it's not too late to start; you will find a simple template at pbgrace.com. [25]

Give your kids our St. Katharine Drexel coloring sheet (page 3) and tell them the remarkable story of the wealthy Philadelphia heiress who gave her life and her fortune to help blacks and Native Americans. A great place to start is with the American Catholic article, "The Legacy of St. Katharine Drexel," available online. [30]



The Glorified Christ

This week's theme: The glorified Christ (the Ascension, Second Coming, and Last Judgment).

Have your kids look at the *Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church* (available online) #132–135, then let them choose questions to pose to you; they get points if they can "stump" you, you get points if you answer correctly. See the full rules at "Stump the Parents" at pbgrace.com.

Sample questions:

What is the Ascension? (#132)

How does the glorified Christ mysteriously remain on earth? (#133)

How will the coming of the Lord in glory happen? (#134)

How will Christ judge the living and the dead? (#135)

Bonus:

What are the twelve fruits of the Holy Spirit? (See the Appendix of the Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church)

NOTES

Keep track of game points and family faith formation activities here.

St. Katharine Drexel

1858 - 1955

*“Let us open wide
our hearts.”*

*Words of St. Katharine Drexel, who
devoted her life (and her fortune) to
helping blacks and Native Americans,
and working to end segregation in the
American Church.*



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